

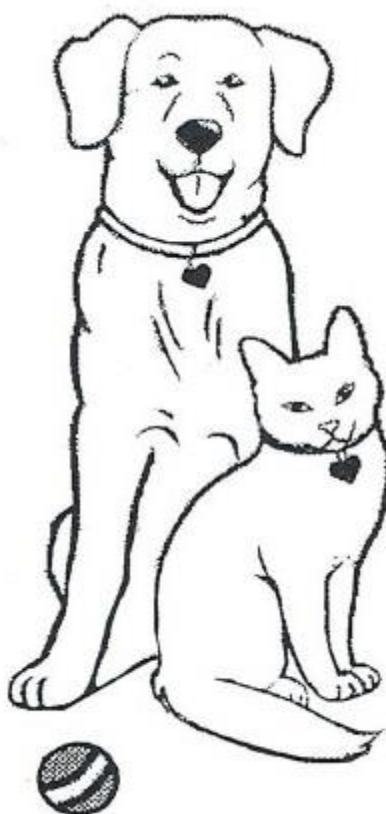


STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Animal Population Control Program

2021 Annual Report



Ned Lamont
Governor

Bryan P. Hurlburt
Commissioner

ANIMAL POPULATION CONTROL PROGRAM

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- I. ANIMAL POPULATION CONTROL PROGRAM (APCP)
 - Overview
 - Statutory Authority
 - History
- II. OPERATIONAL STRUCTURE
- III. STATISTICAL SUMMARY
 - Vaccinations/Sterilizations
 - Income
 - Expenses
 - Connecticut Humane Society
 - Five-Year Report
 - Statistical Data 1997 - 2021
 - Low-Income Program
 - Feral Cat Grant Program
 - Animal Control Officer Training Costs Reimbursement
- IV. BREED PROFILE
- V. PARTICIPATING VETERINARY PRACTICES
- VI. "CARING FOR PETS" COMMEMORATIVE LICENSE PLATE
 - Plate Categories
 - Plate Report
- VII. APCP WEBSITE
- VIII. STANDARD DOG LICENSE APPLICATION
- IX. RECOMMENDATIONS

Appendix: A) *Breed Profile Report*
 B) *Connecticut General Statutes, Chapter 436a*

I. ANIMAL POPULATION CONTROL PROGRAM

OVERVIEW

The goals of the Animal Population Control Program (APCP) are to reduce the overpopulation of dogs and cats in Connecticut and to increase the level of immunization against infectious animal diseases. To accomplish these goals, the APCP provides sterilization and vaccination benefits for dogs and cats to (1) Connecticut residents for dogs and cats adopted from municipal pounds; (2) to low-income residents for dogs and cats that they own; and (3) to non-profit organizations engaged in activities aimed at reducing the population of feral cats. Connecticut is one of only a few states to provide a companion pet sterilization program administered by a state agency for municipal pound animals, feral cats and low-income owned pets.

Pet overpopulation is a significant burden on the limited resources of municipalities. Assistance, provided by the APCP in reducing the overpopulation of dogs and cats and increasing the level of immunizations of the state's pet population against infectious diseases, has a positive effect on local public health and safety. Easing the overpopulation of dogs and cats in Connecticut communities coupled with higher immunization levels decreases the risk of transmission of rabies and other infectious diseases not only from animal to animal but also from animals to people. Additionally, the reduction in animal overpopulation allows municipalities to shift their resources to focus efforts more on enforcement of animal control laws and on educational outreach regarding responsible pet ownership.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

This report has been produced in accordance with the provisions of Connecticut General Statute (C.G.S.) Sec.(§) 22-380k, *Report re operation of program*, which states: "Not later than one year following the inception of the animal population control program, established pursuant to C.G.S. Sec. 22-380e to 22-380m inclusive and annually thereafter, the commissioner shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the general assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment setting forth a complete operating and financial statement regarding the operation of said program. The commissioner shall include an evaluation of the effectiveness of said program and any recommendations for statutory or regulatory changes deemed appropriate."

HISTORY

The APCP was authorized by Public Act #92-187 in July 1992 and implemented on May 22, 1995, to provide vaccination/sterilization benefits for any unsterilized dog or cat adopted from a municipal impound facility. The program was suspended from 1996 to 1997 and again in 2000 due to insufficient funding. The program resumed operation in 2001 after the structure for payments to participating veterinary practices was changed by implementing a voucher system that set fixed payment amounts

dependent on species and the type of sterilization procedure.¹ In addition to APCP income generated by the original \$6.00 licensure surcharge on unspayed and unneutered dogs², APCP income was augmented with the implementation of a \$2.00 licensure surcharge on spayed and neutered dogs in 2002³.

Since the start of the APCP, several changes have expanded the types of benefits provided in addition to the sterilization and vaccination of pets adopted from municipal pounds. Included in the additional benefits are: (1) Funding to assist non-profit organizations with the sterilization and vaccination of feral cats⁴; (2) Funding to assist qualified low-income individuals with the sterilization and vaccination of their own animals⁵; and (3) Reimbursements to persons completing municipal animal control officer training.⁶

In 2012, provisions were added to allow animal control officers to transport unsterilized pets to veterinarians for eligible owners and to exempt pets diagnosed with pyometra from the \$45 adoption fee.⁷

In 2013, provisions increased the maximum percentage of account funds used for sterilization and vaccination of dogs and cats owned by low-income persons from 10 per cent to 20 per cent.⁸

In 2014, provisions allow the account to be used for providing reimbursement to any municipality for costs of providing temporary care to any animal if such temporary care exceeded 30 days and costs exceeded amount of bond posted.⁹

In 2015, provisions replaced the definition of former “Medicaid” with the new definition of “HUSKY A, C or D.”¹⁰

In 2021, provisions increased the allocation from ten per cent to twenty percent of the funds deposited in the animal population control account to be used for the sterilization and vaccination of feral cats.¹¹

For further statutory references, please see Appendix B in this report.

II. OPERATIONAL STRUCTURE

Vouchers are issued at the municipal pound for unsterilized dogs/cats to Connecticut residents who must pay a \$50 fee (\$45 voucher/\$5 municipality). The voucher is good for sixty (60) days from the adoption date and provides a one-time sterilization subsidy of \$80 for a male cat, \$120 for a female cat, \$180 for a

1 Public Act #01-87; C.G.S. §22-380i

2 Public Act #92-187; C.G.S. §22-380/

3 Public Act #02-61; C.G.S. §22-338(a)

4 Public Acts #96-243, #01-87 and #07-105 / C.G.S. §22-380g(b)

5 Public Acts #07-105 and #13-99 / C.G.S. §22-380g(c)

6 Public Act #12-108 / C.G.S. §22-380g(e)

7 Public Act #12-108 / C.G.S. §22-380f(a)

8 Public Act #13-99 / C.G.S. §22-380g

9 Public Act #14-205/ C.G.S. §22-380g

10 Public Act #15-69 / C.G.S. §22-380e

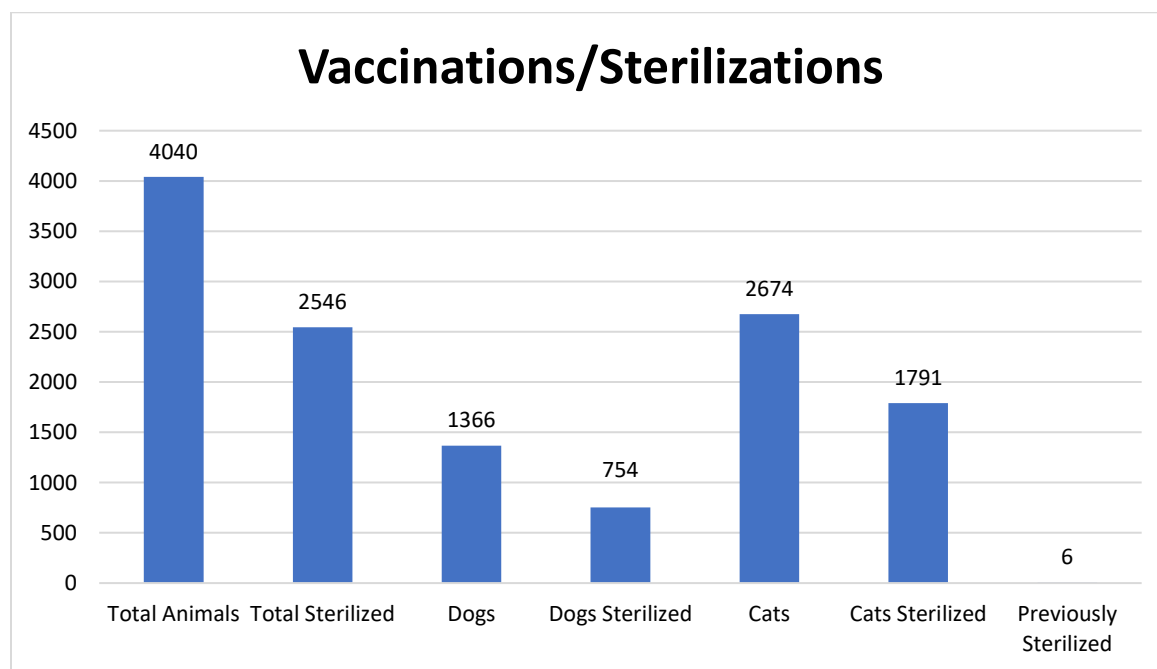
11 Public Act #21-90 / C.G.S. 22-380g

male dog and \$200 for a female dog. In addition, two coincident pre-surgical vaccinations are provided with the sterilization. Pets that are too young or sick to undergo a sterilization procedure are granted a medical extension from a participating veterinarian. The APCP also provides vouchers to Connecticut low-income residents to subsidize sterilization and vaccination costs for owned pets and to non-profit organizations for the sterilization and vaccination of feral cats.

III. STATISTICAL SUMMARY

VACCINATIONS / STERILIZATIONS

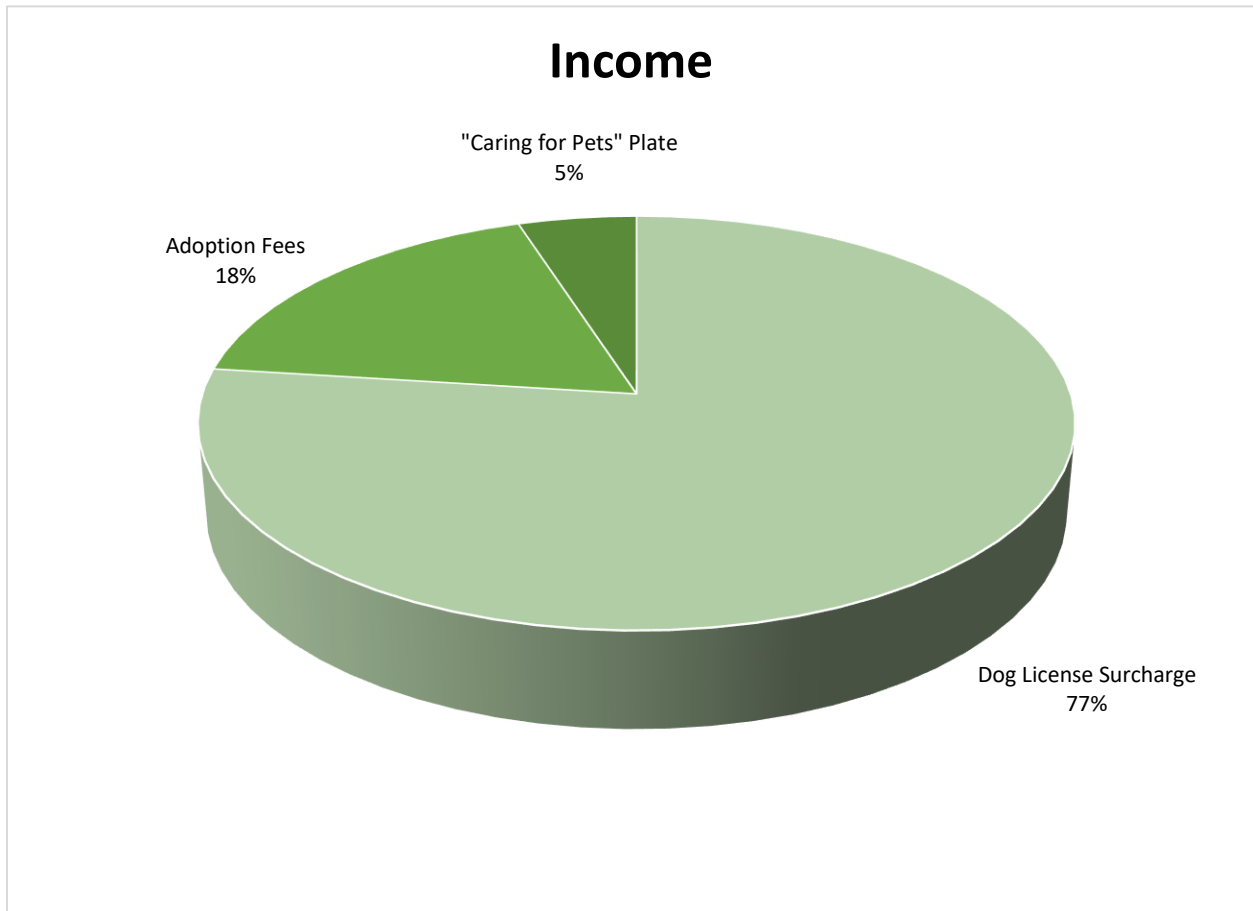
The APCP, in FY 2021, supplied vouchers for 4040 animals (1366 dogs – 34%, 2674 cats – 66%). Municipal impound facilities gave out 1918 vouchers. Low Income Connecticut residents received 1377 vouchers for owned pets. Non-profit feral cat organizations were awarded 745 vouchers. Sterilization benefits were provided for 2546 pets for a 63% overall compliance rate. There were 6 animals found to be previously sterilized.



INCOME

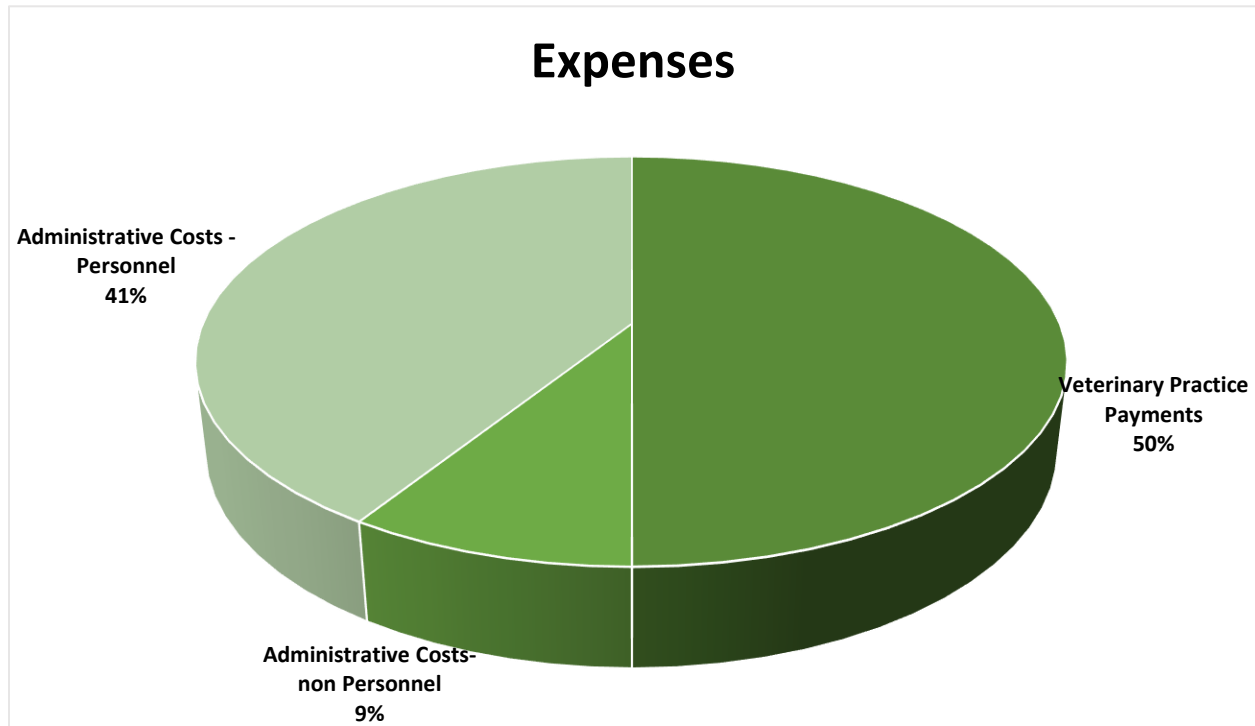
The APCP has its own dedicated account and receives no money from the state's general fund. Revenue is received from the following: annual surcharge on Connecticut dog licenses (\$2.00 sterilized/\$6.00 unsterilized), the \$45 mandatory voucher fee, proceeds from the sale of the "Caring for Pets" commemorative license plate and donations. Dog license surcharge fees are collected by the municipalities and given to the Department of Agriculture annually. Voucher fees collected by the municipalities are given to the Department of Agriculture on a quarterly basis and revenue from pet plate sales are deposited weekly by the Department of Motor Vehicles into the program's account.

In FY 2021, \$388,342.00 was received from dog license surcharge revenue, \$92,760.45 from the \$45 program adoption fee and \$26,335.00 from the DMV for the sale of the "Caring for Pets" commemorative license plate for a total program income of \$507,437.45. The APCP received \$0.00 in donations in fiscal year 2021.



EXPENSES

Total expenses for FY 2021 were \$488,794.80. Participating veterinary practices (220) received \$241,970.00 for their services in supplying sterilization and vaccination benefits for 2546 pets. The average benefit paid for dogs was \$130.00 and cats were \$80.00. Administrative expenses totaled \$246,824.80 of which \$201,508.07 was used to cover personnel costs. Refunds for pets that were previously sterilized totaled \$0.00 (0 refunds).

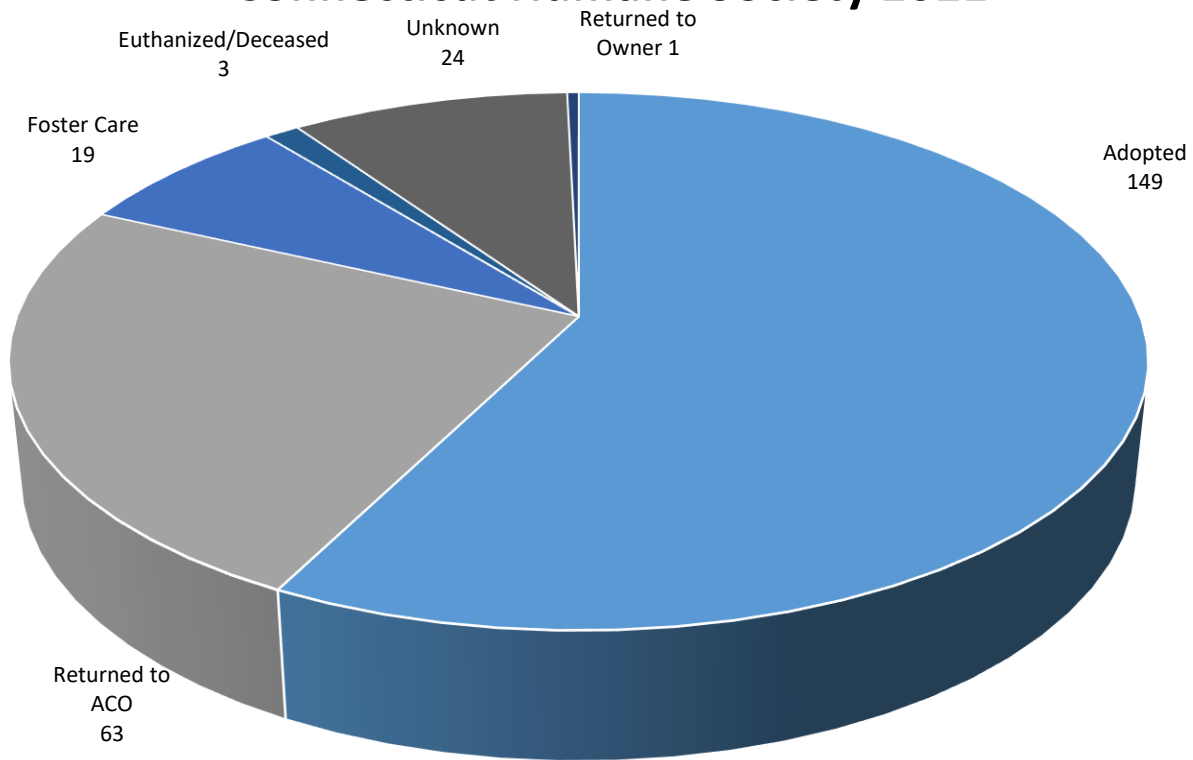


CONNECTICUT HUMANE SOCIETY

Effective October 1, 2003, legislative revisions to C.G.S. Sec. 22-380f (a) (b) (c) and (d) provide for the Connecticut Humane Society (CHS) to assist with pet overpopulation efforts at local municipal facilities by acquiring dogs and cats from those facilities without the requirement of paying a voucher fee. Once a pet is removed from a municipal impound facility, CHS is required to provide vaccination, sterilization (if unaltered) and adoption services through one of its three statewide facilities (Newington, Waterford & Westport). CHS is also required to submit a biannual report to the APCP, accounting for the disposition of each pet removed. If the Society fails to comply with any provision of this section, the Commissioner of Agriculture may terminate the organization's fee exemption status.

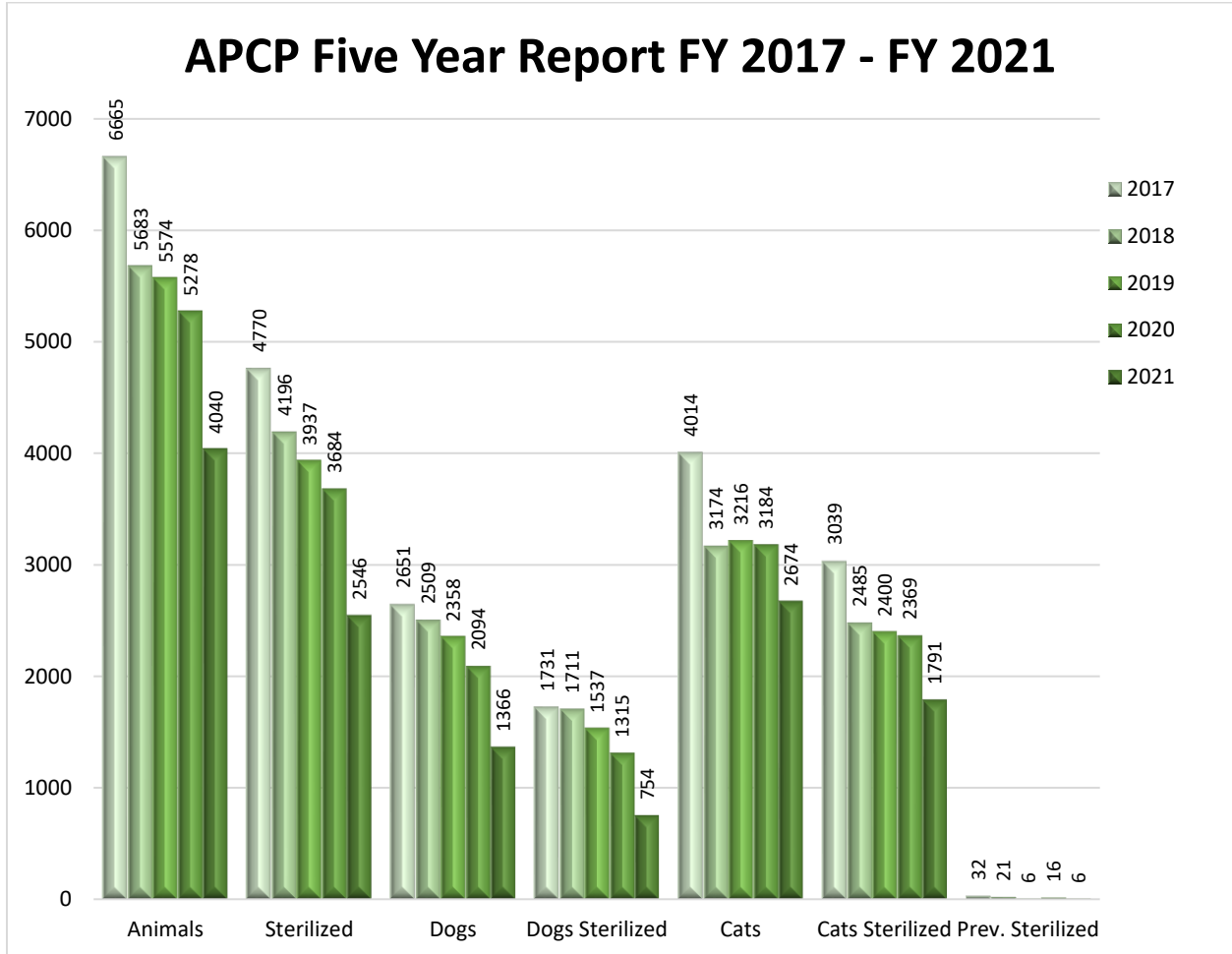
In calendar year 2021, 259 pets (181 cats, 781 dogs) were removed from Connecticut municipal impound facilities. There were 156 pets (60%) vaccinated/sterilized by CHS and 67 pets (26%) found to be previously sterilized. CHS reported 149 (58%) pets were adopted, 63 (24%) pets were returned to the ACO, 19 (7%) pets remained in foster care, 3 (1%) pets were euthanized/deceased, 1 (0%) pet was returned to its owner and 24 (9%) pet's placements were unknown.

Connecticut Humane Society 2021



FIVE-YEAR SUMMARY

FY 2017 → FY 2021



The yearly totals for each category represented in the above graph include dogs and cats adopted from municipal pounds, cats sterilized through the APCP's Feral Cat Grant program awarded to non-profit organizations and dogs and cats owned by Connecticut residents who qualified to participate in the APCP's Low Income program.

STATISTICAL DATA 1997 – 2021

The following statistical data shows the trends experienced by municipal pounds in the numbers of impounded, adopted, euthanized and owner redeemed dogs and cats since 1997 to 2021. The data demonstrates, in part, the positive impact that the APCP has had in an overall reduction of the state's surplus pet population.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>Impounded</u>	<u>Adopted</u>	<u>Euthanized</u>	<u>Redeemed</u>	
1997-98	27,412	8,784	4,823	12,850	
1998-99	26,412	8,751	4,410	12,253	
1999-00	26,295	9,112	4,111	12,009	
2000-01	24,338	9,035	3,228	11,082	
2001-02	22,626	8,349	2,864	10,545	
2002-03	21,023	7,780	2,698	9,757	
2003-04	21,343	8,351	2,668	9,518	
2004-05	19,210	7,568	2,264	8,630	
2005-06	20,678	8,058	2,153	9,685	
2006-07	20,076	7,451	2,342	9,541	
2007-08	20,160	7,563	2,332	9,391	
2008-09	19,791	7,432	2,549	9,023	
2009-10	19,299	7,266	2,525	8,741	
2010-11	20,118	7,659	2,743	8,892	
2011-12	19,994	7,775	2,745	8,626	
2012-13	18,585	7,411	2,341	8,282	
2013-14	18,284	7,640	2,009	7,819	
2014-15	16,434	6,719	1,601	7,567	
2015-16	16,431	7,103	1,336	7,171	
2016-17	15,583	6,792	1,131	6,792	
2017-18	13,240	5,165	971	6,356	
2018-19	12,325	4,653	774	6,404	
2019-20	11,388	4,666	681	5,434	
2020-21	9,750	3,885	615	4,646	
<u>% Reduction</u>	<u>64%</u>	<u>56%</u>	<u>87%*</u>	<u>64%</u>	

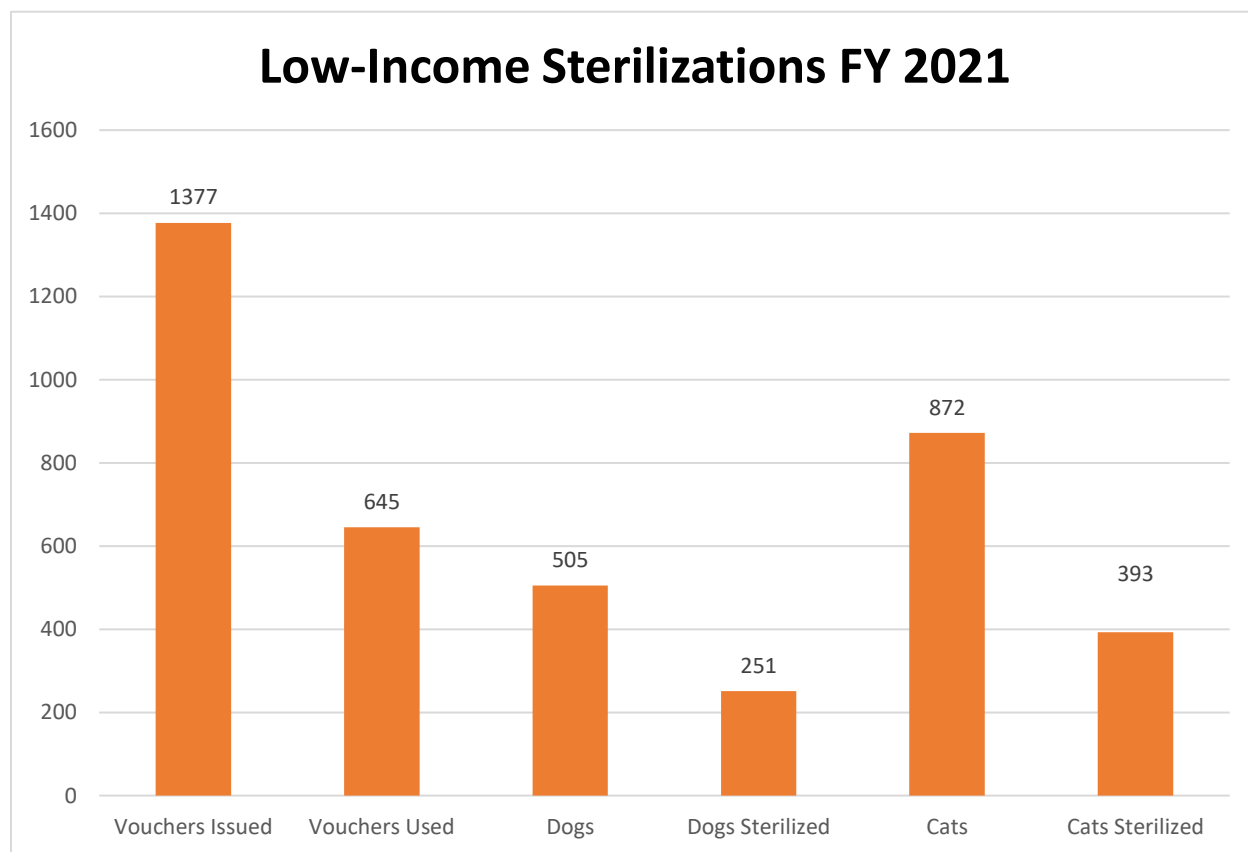
*It is likely that the decline in the number of impounded animals euthanized is due in part to an increase in the number of municipal pounds that have implemented policies to significantly limit euthanasia of impounded dogs and cats.

LOW-INCOME PROGRAM

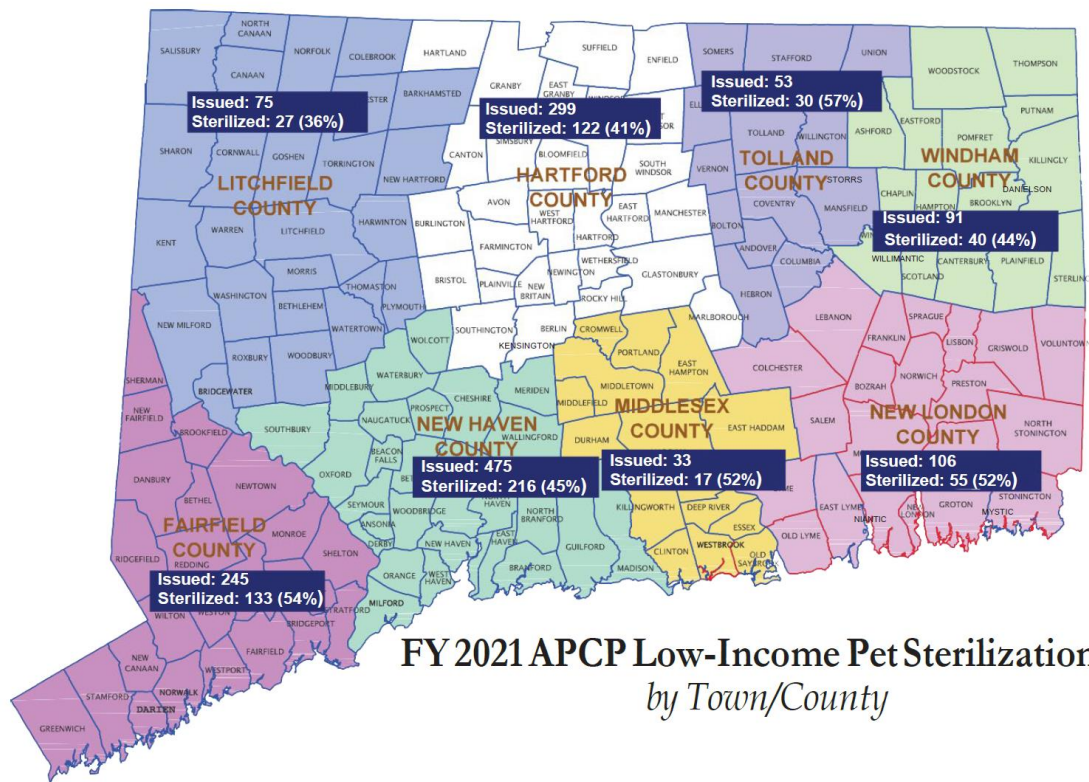
In 2007, Public Act 07-105 authorized the APCP to set aside up to 10% of APCP income to be used to vaccinate and sterilize dogs and cats owned by CT Low-Income residents. To be eligible for benefits, recipients must be a Connecticut resident and on one of six public assistance programs outlined in C.G.S.

Sec. 22-380e (12) (A – G) and approved by the Department of Social Services. Once approved, vouchers are then issued by the APCP to low-income recipients for up to two pets. All vouchers are good for sixty (60) days. For FY 2014, P.A. 13-99 effective 7/1/13 increased the level of benefits from 10% to 20%.

For FY 2021, \$121,314.20 was set aside for the low-income program. The APCP issued 1377 vouchers with 645 used for a 47% overall sterilization compliance rate. Male dogs totaled 249 and female dogs equaled 256. Male cats totaled 387 and female cats came to 485. Vouchers were issued for 872 cats of which 394 were sterilized (45%) and for 505 dogs of which 251 were sterilized (50%). The average benefit provided per cat is \$80 and \$130 for dogs, for FY 2021.



*Amounts for the chart and the following map differ because figures were obtained on different dates. More information was added after the map was created.



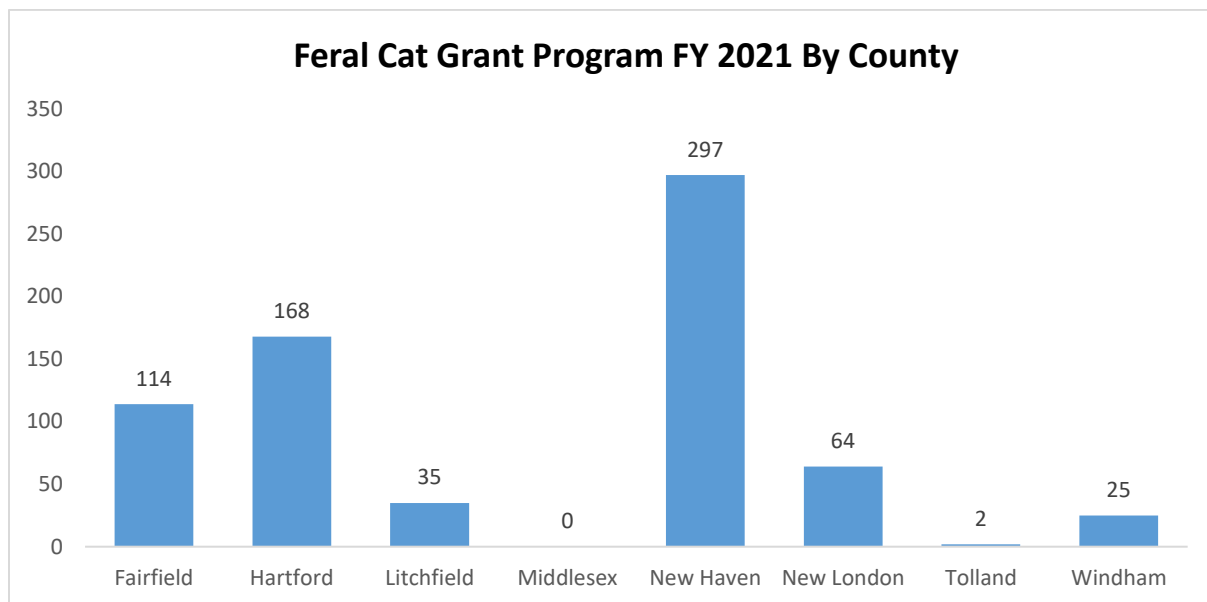
FAIRFIELD		Issued	Sterilized	PLAINVILLE		3	1	NEW HAVEN		Issued	Sterilized	NORWICH		31	15
BETHEL	7	6		ROCKY HILL	1	0						OLD LYME	1	1	
BRIDGEPORT	88	38		SIMSBURY	1	0		ANSONIA	23	12		PRESTON	2	2	
BROOKFIELD	4	4		SOUTH WINDSOR	2	0		BEACON FALLS	4	3		WATERFORD	4	3	
DANBURY	10	7		SOUTHINGTON	11	3		BRANFORD	12	3		TOTAL	106	55	
EASTON	1	0		WEST HARTFORD	1	1		CHESHIRE	7	3					
FAIRFIELD	8	6		WETHERSFIELD	1	0		DERBY	15	9					
GREENWICH	7	7		WINDSOR	7	4		EAST HAVEN	17	9		TOLLAND	Issued	Sterilized	
MONROE	9	2		WINDSOR LOCKS	3	3		GUILFORD	3	2					
NEW FAIRFIELD	1	0		TOTAL	299	122		HAMDEN	14	9		BOLTON	1	0	
NEWTOWN	7	3						MERIDEN	35	8		COVENTRY	8	5	
NORWALK	19	14						MILFORD	14	10		ELLINGTON	1	0	
REDDING	1	0		LITCHFIELD	Issued	Sterilized		NAUGATUCK	36	14		HEBRON	6	5	
SHELTON	18	7						NEW HAVEN	64	24		MANSFIELD	11	5	
STAMFORD	15	11		BETHLEHEM	3	0		NORTH BRANFORD	2	2		STAFFORD	8	4	
STRATFORD	36	22		CANAAN	1	1		NORTH HAVEN	4	0		TOLLAND	2	2	
TRUMBULL	12	5		HARWINTON	2	0		ORANGE	2	0		VERNON	15	9	
WESTPORT	1	0		LITCHFIELD	2	0		OXFORD	9	3		WILLINGTON	1	0	
WILTON	1	1		NEW HARTFORD	1	0		PROSPECT	2	0		TOTAL	53	30	
TOTAL	245	133		NEW MILFORD	3	1		SEYMOUR	16	6					
				PLYMOUTH	7	1		SOUTHBURY	4	2					
				SHARON	2	0		WALLINGFORD	18	12		WINDHAM	Issued	Sterilized	
HARTFORD	Issued	Sterilized		THOMASTON	4	2		WATERBURY	128	50					
BERLIN	1	0		TORRINGTON	28	11		WEST HAVEN	40	33		ASHFORD	1	1	
BLOOMFIELD	1	1		WARREN	1	0		WOLCOTT	6	2		BROOKLYN	3	1	
BRISTOL	28	8		WATERTOWN	5	2		TOTAL	475	216		CANTERBURY	3	3	
BURLINGTON	2	1		WINCHESTER	14	6						HAMPTON	1	0	
CANTON	4	1		WOODBURY	2	0		NEW LONDON	Issued	Sterilized		KILLINGLY	22	9	
EAST GRANBY	1	1		TOTAL	75	27						PLAINFIELD	16	16	
EAST HARTFORD	20	5						COLCHESTER	2	1		PUTNAM	4	1	
EAST WINDSOR	7	1		MIDDLESEX	Issued	Sterilized		EAST LYME	1	1		SCOTLAND	2	0	
ENFIELD	3	1						GRISWOLD	10	3		STERLING	1	1	
FARMINGTON	3	3		CHESTER	1	1		GROTON	13	4		THOMPSON	2	0	
GLASTONBURY	3	2		CLINTON	3	0		LEBANON	6	3		WINDHAM	30	9	
HARTFORD	117	48		EAST HAMPTON	4	4		LEDYARD	5	5		WOODSTOCK	6	5	
MANCHESER	22	11		ESSEX	1	1		LISBON	2	2		TOTAL	91	40	
MARLBOROUGH	1	0		HADDAM	1	0		LYME	2	2					
NEW BRITAIN	46	21		MIDDLEFIELD	1	0		MONTVILLE	8	3					
NEWINGTON	10	5		MIDDLETOWN	21	11		NEW LONDON	18	10					
				PORTLAND	1	0		NORTH STONINGTON	1	0					
				TOTAL	33	17									

TOTALS: 1377 VOUCHERS ISSUED
640 STERILIZED (46%)
124 TOWNS REPRESENTED

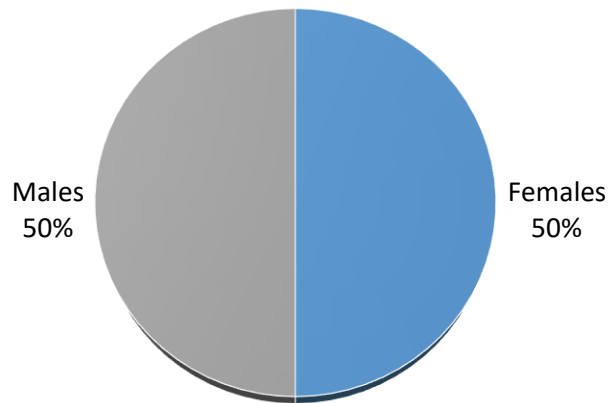
FERAL CAT GRANT PROGRAM

In 2007, Public Act 07-1055 authorized the APCP to set aside up to 10% of APCP income for Connecticut non-profit organizations to provide sterilization and vaccination benefits for feral cats. In 2021, Public Act 21-90 increased the set aside for the feral cat program from 10% to 20\$, this change went into effect October 31, 2021.

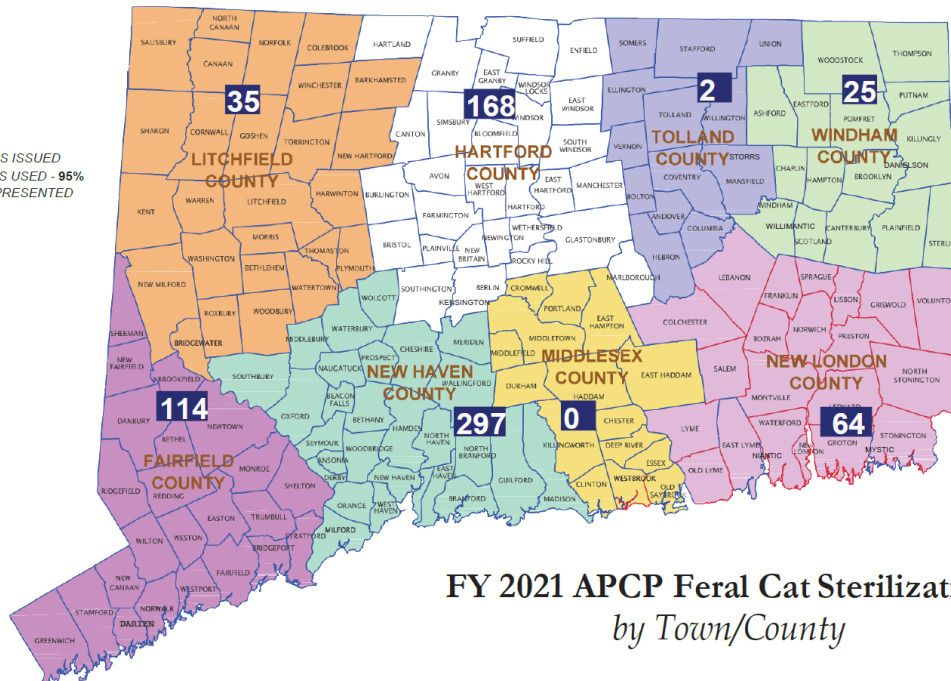
In FY 2021, the APCP issued 745 vouchers to twenty-nine (29) non-profit organizations. A total of 704 cats were sterilized, 1 cat was found to be previously sterilized and 40 vouchers were not used for a 95% compliance rate. Seven counties in the state were represented, reflecting 57 towns and cities. Feral cat totals per county were as follows: Fairfield 114, Hartford 168, Litchfield 35, Middlesex 0, New Haven 297, New London 64, Tolland 2 and Windham 25.



Feral Cat Grant Program FY 2021



TOTALS:
745 VOUCHERS ISSUED
705 VOUCHERS USED - 95%
57 TOWNS REPRESENTED



FY 2021 APCP Feral Cat Sterilizations
by Town/County

FAIRFIELD COUNTY	HARTFORD COUNTY	WEST HARTFORD 5	NEW HAVEN COUNTY	WATERBURY 58	TOLLAND COUNTY
BRIDGEPORT 53	BERLIN 2	WETHERSFIELD 2	ANSONIA 3	WEST HAVEN 9	VERNON 2
DANBURY 4	BRISTOL 1	WINDSOR 2	BETHANY 4	WOLCOTT 3	
EASTON 3	EAST HARTFORD 10		DERBY 21	WOODBIDGE 1	WINDHAM COUNTY
FAIRFIELD 2	GLASTONBURY 3	LITCHFIELD COUNTY	EAST HAVEN 1		BROOKLYN 6
GREENWICH 4	HARTFORD 71	CANAAN 3	HAMDEN 15	NEW LONDON COUNTY	CANTERBURY 3
NORWALK 6	MANCHESTER 3	GOSHEN 13	MERIDEN 58	GRISWOLD 13	PLAINFIELD 13
STAMFORD 37	NEW BRITAIN 49	THOMASTON 2	NAUGATUCK 9	LEDYARD 18	POMFRET 2
STRATFORD 2	PLAINVILLE 1	TORRINGTON 5	NEW HAVEN 88	NEW LONDON 13	PUTNAM 1
WESTPORT 3	ROCKY HILL 1	WATERTOWN 11	NORTH HAVEN 4	N STONINGTON 2	
	SIMSBURY 1	WINCHESTER 1	OXFORD 4	NORWICH 16	
	SOUTHTON 17	MIDDLESEX COUNTY	SEYMOUR 2	SPRAGUE 2	
			WALLINGFORD 17		

ANIMAL CONTROL OFFICER TRAINING REIMBURSEMENT

Pursuant to Sec. 22-380g (e) (3) which states in part “reimbursement of persons completing a training-program pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of section 22-328 for the costs of such program”.

For FY 2021, there was no compensation paid out to Connecticut Municipal Animal Control Officers for training reimbursement costs.

IV. BREED PROFILE

Connecticut municipal impound facilities processed approximately 1915 animals in FY 2021. Of that total, 1201 were sterilized (63%). There were 5 municipal pound pets previously sterilized.

Dog adoptions totaled 861 with 503 sterilized (68%). The mixed breed once again was the primary dog breed with 408 adoptions/238 sterilized (58%). The Pit Bull/Pit Bull mix was second with 197 adoptions/105 sterilized (53%). The top five purebreds were: Chihuahua 69/39 sterilized (57%), German Shepherd 20/13 sterilized (65%), Shih Tzu 19/12 (63%), Maltese 14/14 (100%) and Beagle 14/5 (43%). Three (3) dogs were previously sterilized.

Cat adoptions totaled 1057, of which 694 were sterilized (66%). The domestic short hair tops the list with 867/578 sterilized (67%). The domestic long hair is second with 95/55 sterilized (58%) and the domestic medium hair third with 84/59 sterilized (70%). Siamese cats were also included in the total. Two (2) cats were previously sterilized. Please see the [Breed Profile Report](#) in Appendix A for more details about the different breeds in the program.

V. PARTICIPATING VETERINARY PRACTICES

For FY 2021, 220 practices were certified to participate encompassing over 600 individual veterinarians. The Commissioner of Agriculture, pursuant to C.G.S. Sec. 22-380h, certifies Connecticut Veterinary Practices wishing to perform vaccination/sterilization benefits for the state. Practices wishing to participate need to complete the program application form APCP-02, the SP-26 NB Agency Vendor Form and the federal Request for Taxpayer ID Number form W-9. Once certified, practices will receive the standard voucher amount as previously outlined in this report. Veterinarians may also charge adopters for post-surgical complications and a fee differential, which is the amount between the voucher and the hospital's normal spay/neuter fee.

VI. “CARING FOR PETS” COMMEMORATIVE License Plate

OVERVIEW

The “Caring for Pets” commemorative license plate is available through the Department of Motor Vehicles in three different categories. An off-the-shelf plate with random numbers/letters combination is sold for \$50 (APCP receives \$35). Next is a transfer of a current marker plate for \$70 (APCP receives \$55). The third choice is a new vanity plate for \$139 (APCP receives \$55). Along with the regular renewal fees, there is an additional \$15 fee for each renewal, \$10 of which is deposited into the program’s dedicated account. “Caring for Pets” plates are available for passenger, combination, commercial and camp trailer type registrations.

Plate applications are located at all DMV outlets, veterinary practices, municipal pounds, town halls, pet and grooming shops, boarding kennels, auto dealerships or by calling the APCP at 860-713-2507. Plates can be ordered over the phone by calling the DMV at 1-800-842-8222. Plates can be ordered online as well by going to the DMV website at www.ct.gov/dmv. The website allows the public to view the dog/cat design and provides citizens the ability to type in available acronyms for those seeking vanity plate combinations.

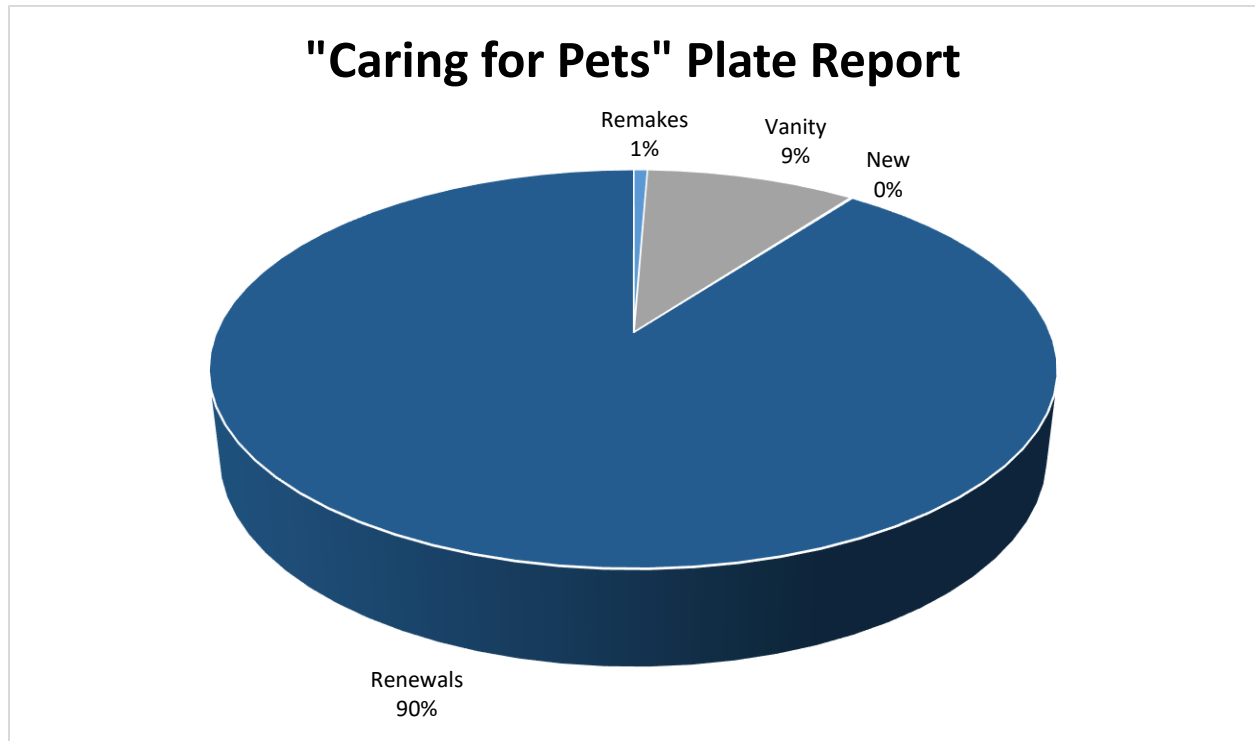
The plate design was created in 1998 and donated by local Connecticut artists Mark Maglio of Plainville and Kathy Goff of Avon. A mix breed dog was selected for the canine choice because most pound dogs adopted are mix breeds. The cat choice is a domestic shorthair, which makes up most cats seen in the program.



"CARING FOR PETS"

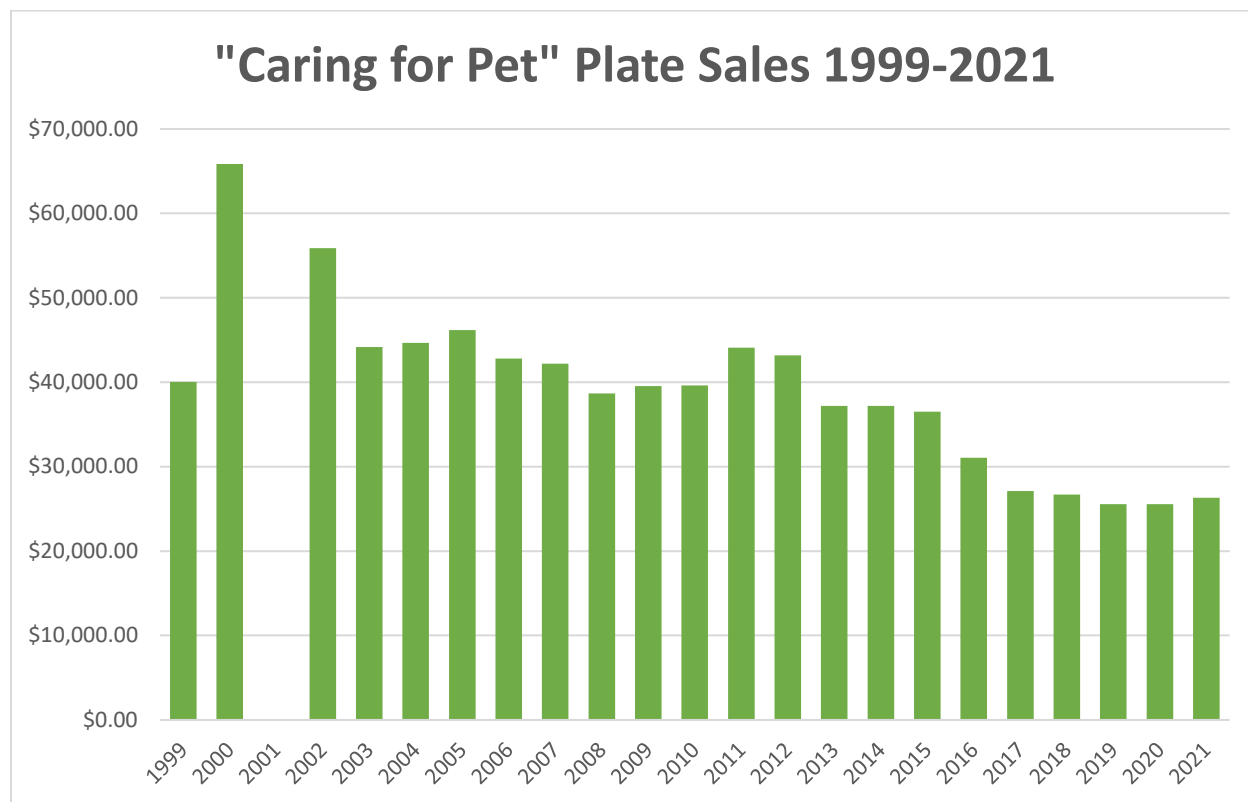
The Animal Population Control Program's dedicated account received \$26,305.00 from the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) in FY 2021. There were 2,093 plates issued or renewed.

The largest revenue came from the 1,878 biennial plate renewal fees collected (\$18,780.00), followed by 200 vanity plates issued (\$7,000.00) and 13 remakes of a current plate (\$455.00). There were 2 "Off the Shelf" plates bought in FY2021 (\$70.00). More than \$850,000.00 has been deposited into the APCP account since the unveiling of the plate in 1998.



The APCP dedicated account has received approximately \$858,524.00, since 1999, from the "Caring for

Pets” Plate Program. The most money was deposited in FY 2000, \$65,870.00 and the least was in FY 2020, \$23,875.00. The program was suspended in FY 2001 due to insufficient funding.



VII. APCP WEBSITE

Information about the program, regulations, certification applications for veterinary practices, feral cat grant, low-income and dog license applications can all be downloaded from the APCP website. Even information about ordering a new “Caring for Pets” commemorative license plate can be located by going to:

www.ct.gov/doag/apcp

The public can also submit questions to the APCP 24/7 by going to the program’s generic e-mail address agr.apcp@ct.gov. Staff will review the content of questions and respond within two business days.

VIII. STANDARD DOG LICENSE APPLICATION

C.G.S Sec. 22-380g (a) (3) provided statutory language for the creation of a standard dog license application to be distributed to veterinarians, pet shops, grooming facilities, municipal pounds, and dog training facilities who voluntarily agree to make such forms available for the convenience of dog owners. This initiative was launched in May 2007 with more than 500,000 applications printed and distributed

statewide during the first few years of issuance. All dogs over six months of age must be licensed and require a current rabies vaccination prior to licensing. Current fees are \$19.00 for an unsterilized dog and \$8.00 for those that are altered. The main source of APCP income is from a surcharge on all dog licenses. Approximately 77% of the program's income comes from the sale of dog licenses. To download an application, go to www.ct.gov/doag/apcp and click on the "Application for a Dog License" link.

X. RECOMMENDATIONS

During the Animal Population Control Program's (APCP) more than twenty years of operation, the program has provided benefits to more than 250,000 companion pets.

It is recommended that the administration makes a legislative request to increase the current APCP dog license surcharges. Increasing these surcharges will generate more revenue for the program to fund increases in payments for sterilizations and vaccinations and possibly other medical services at the time of adoption. This will positively impact participating veterinarians and potential adopters by increasing the likelihood of participation in the program.

It is also recommended that the administration takes a wholistic look at the marketing efforts the APCP program towards to public. The administration should either look at contracting a marketing campaign with a marketing firm or assign a lead program staff member who will build an outreach and marketing plan options.

The administration should also look at creating an online structure for APCP participants to apply for applications, retrieve program information, and access follow-ups, all via an online system. Given that this program has new staff, this is an ideal time to explore how to modernize how we run this program.

APPENDIX A

Animal Population Control Program Breed Profile

7/1/2020 to 6/30/2021

Pet Breed	Pet Sex:	Total Animals	Total Sterilized	% Sterilized
Akita	M	1	1	100%
	Total	1	1	100%
American Staffordshire Terrier	M	1	1	100%
American Staffordshire Terrier	F	1	1	100%
	Total	2	2	100%
Australian Cattle Dog	M	1	0	0%
	Total	1	0	0%
Australian Shepherd	M	1	0	0%
Australian Shepherd	F	1	0	0%
	Total	2	0	0%
Beagle	M	6	3	50%
Beagle	F	8	3	38%
	Total	14	6	43%
Bichon Frise	F	1	1	100%
	Total	1	1	100%
Boston Terrier	M	1	1	100%
Boston Terrier	F	1	0	0%
	Total	2	1	50%
Boxer	M	1	1	100%
Boxer	F	1	0	0%
	Total	2	1	50%
Bull Terrier	M	1	1	100%
	Total	1	1	100%
Bulldog	M	7	3	43%
Bulldog	F	5	2	40%
	Total	12	5	42%
Cairn Terrier	F	1	1	100%
	Total	1	1	100%
Cane Corso	M	3	2	67%
Cane Corso	F	5	5	100%
	Total	8	7	88%
Chihuahua	M	38	18	47%
Chihuahua	F	31	21	68%
	Total	69	39	57%
Cocker Spaniel	M	1	1	100%
Cocker Spaniel	F	1	1	100%
	Total	2	2	100%
Dachshund	M	1	1	100%
Dachshund	F	3	2	67%
	Total	4	3	75%
DLH	M	47	28	60%
DLH	F	48	27	56%
	Total	95	55	58%

Animal Population Control Program Breed Profile (Cont.)

7/1/2020 to 6/30/2021

Pet Breed	Pet Sex:	Total Animals	Total Sterilized	% Sterilized
DMH	M	40	27	68%
DMH	F	44	32	73%
	Total	84	59	70%
Doberman Pinscher	M	1	1	100%
	Total	1	1	100%
Dogo Argentino	F	1	1	100%
	Total	1	1	100%
DSH	M	386	275	71%
DSH	F	481	303	63%
	Total	867	578	67%
German Shepherd	M	7	4	57%
German Shepherd	F	13	9	69%
	Total	20	13	65%
Great Dane	M	1	0	0%
	Total	1	0	0%
Great Pyrenees	M	2	0	0%
	Total	2	0	0%
Jack Russell Terrier	M	3	2	67%
Jack Russell Terrier	F	3	1	33%
	Total	6	3	50%
Lhasa Apso	M	3	3	100%
Lhasa Apso	F	1	0	0%
	Total	4	3	75%
Maine Coon	M	1	1	100%
	Total	1	1	100%
Maltese	M	6	6	100%
Maltese	F	8	8	100%
	Total	14	14	100%
Mastiff	M	2	2	100%
	Total	2	2	100%
Mixed	M	242	146	60%
Mixed	F	166	92	55%
	Total	408	238	58%
Newfoundland	F	1	1	100%
	Total	1	1	100%
Papillon	M	1	1	100%
	Total	1	1	100%
Pekingese	F	1	0	0%
	Total	1	0	0%
Pit Bull	M	32	23	72%
Pit Bull	F	20	15	75%
	Total	52	38	73%

Animal Population Control Program Breed Profile (Cont.)

7/1/2020 to 6/30/2021

Pet Breed	Pet Sex:	Total Animals	Total Sterilized	% Sterilized
Pit Bull Mix	M	72	29	40%
Pit Bull Mix	F	73	38	52%
	Total	145	67	46%
Pointer	M	1	0	0%
	Total	1	0	0%
Pomeranian	M	3	2	67%
	Total	3	2	67%
Poodle	M	3	3	100%
Poodle	F	4	2	50%
	Total	7	5	71%
Pug	M	2	1	50%
	Total	2	1	50%
Retriever (Labrador)	M	5	4	80%
Retriever (Labrador)	F	1	1	100%
	Total	6	5	83%
Rottie X	M	2	2	100%
	Total	2	2	100%
Rottweiler	M	4	1	25%
Rottweiler	F	3	3	100%
	Total	7	4	57%
Saint Bernard	M	2	2	100%
	Total	2	2	100%
Shiba Inu	M	2	1	50%
Shiba Inu	F	1	0	0%
	Total	3	1	33%
Shih Tzu	M	7	7	100%
Shih Tzu	F	12	5	42%
	Total	19	12	63%
Siamese	M	5	3	60%
Siamese	F	3	1	33%
	Total	8	4	50%
Siberian Husky	M	7	5	71%
Siberian Husky	F	7	6	86%
	Total	14	11	79%
Silky Terrier	M	1	1	100%
	Total	1	1	100%
Staffordshire Bull Terrier	F	1	1	100%
	Total	1	1	100%
West Highland White Terrier	F	1	0	0%
	Total	1	0	0%
Yorkshire Terrier	M	6	4	67%
Yorkshire Terrier	F	4	1	25%
	Total	10	5	50%

Animal Population Control Program Breed Profile (Cont.)

7/1/2020 to 6/30/2021

Pet Breed	Pet Sex:	Total Animals	Total Sterilized	% Sterilized
	Grand Totals	1,915	1,201	63%

APPENDIX B

Connecticut General Statutes
Chapter 436a
Animal Population Control Program
C.G.S. Secs. 22-380e to 22-380m

Sec. 22-380e. Definitions. As used in sections 22-380e to 22-380m, inclusive:

- (1) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Agriculture;
- (2) "Program" means the animal population control program;
- (3) "Account" means the animal population control account;
- (4) "Participating veterinarian" means any veterinarian who has been certified to participate in the program by the commissioner;
- (5) "Pound" means any state or municipal facility where impounded, quarantined or stray dogs, cats or other domestic animals are kept or any veterinary hospital or commercial kennel where such dogs, cats or other domestic animals are kept by order of a municipality;
- (6) "Eligible owner" means a person who has purchased or adopted a dog or cat from a pound and who is a resident of this state;
- (7) "Medically unfit" means (A) unsuitable for a surgical procedure due to any medical condition that may place a dog or cat at life-threatening risk if a surgical procedure is performed on such animal, as determined by a participating veterinarian, or (B) unsuitable for sterilization due to insufficiency in age, as determined by a participating veterinarian, of a dog or cat under the age of six months;
- (8) "Neuter" means the surgical procedure of castration on a male dog or cat;
- (9) "Spay" means the surgical procedure of ovariectomy on a female dog or cat;
- (10) "Voucher" means a nontransferable document provided by the commissioner and issued by a pound to an eligible owner authorizing payment of a predetermined amount from the animal population control account to a participating veterinarian.
- (11) "Feral cat" means a cat of the species *Felis catus* that is unowned, that exists in a wild or untamed state or has returned to an untamed state from domestication and whose behavior is suggestive of a wild animal; and
- (12) "Low-income person" means a recipient of or a person eligible for one of the following public assistance programs:
 - (A) The supplemental nutrition assistance program authorized by Title XIII of the federal Food and Agriculture Act of 1977, 7 USC 2011 et seq.;
 - (B) The federal Temporary Assistance for Needy Families Act authorized by 42 USC 601 et seq.;

(C) HUSKY A, C or D;

(D) The state-administered general assistance program;

(E) The state supplement program; or

(F) Any other public assistance program that the commissioner determines to qualify a person as a low-income person.

Sec. 22-380f. Payment for adoption of unspayed or unneutered dog or cat. Connecticut Humane Society exemption. Report. Termination of exemption.

(a) No pound shall sell or give away any unspayed or unneutered dog or cat to any person unless such pound receives forty-five dollars from the person buying or adopting such dog or cat. Funds received pursuant to this section shall be paid quarterly by the municipality into the animal population control account established under section 22-380g. At the time of receipt of such payment, the pound shall complete a voucher, for the purpose of benefits, as provided in section 22-380i, for the sterilization and vaccination of such dog or cat and (1) provide the voucher to the person buying or adopting such dog or cat, or (2) retain such voucher and submit it to a participating veterinarian for such sterilization and vaccination before releasing the dog or cat to the person buying or adopting the dog or cat. Any such voucher shall be on a form provided by the commissioner and signed (A) by the eligible owner if the voucher is provided to the person buying or adopting the dog or cat, or (B) by a representative of the pound if the pound retains the voucher. Such voucher shall become void after sixty days from the date of purchase or adoption unless a participating veterinarian certifies that the dog or cat is medically unfit for surgery. Such certification shall be on a form provided by the commissioner and specify a date by which such dog or cat may be fit for sterilization. If the surgery is performed more than thirty days after such specified date, the voucher shall become void. In the case of a dog or cat that has been previously sterilized or is permanently medically unfit for sterilization, as determined by a participating veterinarian, the voucher shall be void and the eligible owner may apply to the commissioner for a refund in the amount of forty-five dollars. If a dog or cat has pyometra and is not purchased or adopted from a pound, a representative of the pound may complete a voucher, for the purpose of benefits, as provided in section 22-380i, and submit such voucher to a participating veterinarian for the sterilization and vaccination of such dog or cat.

(b) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (a) of this section, no pound shall receive forty-five dollars from the Connecticut Humane Society for any unsterilized cat or dog that is given by such pound to the Connecticut Humane Society, provided such cat or dog is sterilized prior to the adoption of such animal from the Connecticut Humane Society. Such sterilization shall not be required if a licensed veterinarian certifies, in writing, that the animal is medically unfit for sterilization surgery.

(c) The Connecticut Humane Society shall submit a biannual report to the Commissioner of Agriculture that shall include, but not be limited to, the municipal facility from which any animal described in subsection (b) of this section was taken, the impound number of such animal, the species and gender of such animal, the date that the Connecticut Humane Society received the animal and the date of sterilization for such animal.

(d) Upon a finding that the Connecticut Humane Society has failed to comply with any provision of subsection (b) or (c) of this section, the Commissioner of Agriculture may terminate the Connecticut Humane Society's exemption from the payment of the forty-five-dollar fee required pursuant to subsection (a) of this section.

Sec. 22-380g. Animal population control account. Distribution of forms. Programs for vaccination and sterilization of cats and dogs. Funds. Suspension of programs.

(a) The Commissioner of Agriculture shall (1) establish an animal population control program to provide for spaying and neutering services to eligible owners of dogs and cats, (2) establish an account to be known as the "animal population control account" that may contain any moneys required by law to be deposited in the account and any balance remaining in said account at the end of any fiscal year shall be carried forward in said account for the fiscal year next succeeding, (3) create a standard dog licensing form and distribute said form to veterinarians or the operators of pet shops, pet grooming facilities, municipal pounds or dog training facilities who voluntarily agree to make such forms available for the convenience of dog owners, (4) establish a program to assist registered nonprofit rescue groups with the sterilization and vaccination of feral cats, and (5) establish a program to sterilize and vaccinate dogs and cats owned by a low-income person.

(b) Not more than twenty per cent of the funds deposited in the animal population control account in accordance with subsection (f) of section 14-21h, subsection (a) of section 22-338, section 22-380f and section 22-380l shall be used for the sterilization and vaccination of feral cats program in accordance with subdivision (4) of subsection (a) of this section.

(c) Not more than twenty per cent of the funds deposited in the animal population control account in accordance with subsection (f) of [section 14-21h](#), subsection (a) of [section 22-338](#), [section 22-380f](#) and [section 22-380l](#) shall be used for the sterilization and vaccination of dogs and cats owned by a low-income person pursuant to the program established under subdivision (5) of subsection (a) of this section.

(d) The commissioner may solicit and accept funds from any public or private source of help to carry out the goals of the programs established under subsection (a) of this section, including, but not limited to, the sterilization of feral cats as provided in [section 22-339d](#). A donor may earmark funds for any or all of such programs.

(e) Any revenue collected pursuant to the provisions of [sections 22-380f](#) and [22-380l](#) shall be deposited in the animal population control account. All money in the account shall be used by the commissioner exclusively for (1) the implementation and promotion of the animal population control program, (2) the costs associated with the administration of such program, provided not more than two hundred twenty-five thousand dollars may be expended for administrative costs per year, and (3) reimbursement of persons completing a training program pursuant to subsections (c) and (d) of [section 22-328](#), for the costs of such program, provided moneys in the account may also be used to provide reimbursement to any municipality for the costs of providing temporary care to any animal pursuant to [section 22-329a](#) if such temporary care exceeded thirty days in duration and such costs exceeded the amount of any surety bond or cash bond posted pursuant to subsection (f) of [section 22-329a](#), provided the total annual reimbursement to municipalities from said account for such purpose shall not exceed fifty thousand dollars.

(f) The commissioner may suspend any or all of the programs at any time that the amount of money available in the account is less than three hundred thousand dollars. The commissioner may reinstate any of the suspended programs when such amount exceeds three hundred thousand dollars.

Sec. 22-380h. Participating veterinarians. Requirements.

(a) Any veterinarian licensed pursuant to section 20-199 may file with the commissioner, on forms provided by the commissioner, an application to become a participating veterinarian in the program.

(b) In order to be certified by the commissioner as a participating veterinarian, the veterinarian shall: (1) Perform all spay and neuter surgical procedures in a veterinary hospital facility or mobile clinic equipped for such procedures located in this state that meets the standards set forth in regulations adopted by the commissioner, as provided in section 20-196; (2) make all records pertaining to care provided, work done and fees received for or in connection with the program available for inspection by the commissioner or the commissioner's designee; (3) maintain records in accordance with regulations adopted under section 19a-14; and (4) hold a currently valid license to practice veterinary medicine in this state issued by the Department of Public Health.

(c) Any licensed veterinarian of this state may be certified by the commissioner as a participating veterinarian unless the commissioner disqualifies such veterinarian. The commissioner may disqualify a veterinarian if such veterinarian has been found in violation of any provision of sections 22-380e to 22-380m, inclusive, or any laws relating to the practice of veterinary medicine. Any veterinarian disqualified or otherwise denied participation in the program may appeal, within ten days of receipt of a notice of such disqualification or denial, to the commissioner who shall hold a hearing to consider such appeal, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54.

(d) Complaints received by the commissioner or the commissioner's designee regarding services provided by participating veterinarians shall be referred to the Board of Veterinary Medicine of the Department of Public Health.

Sec. 22-380i. Payments to participating veterinarians for sterilizations and vaccinations performed.

(a) The program established under section 22-380g shall provide for payment to any participating veterinarian of an amount equivalent to the voucher issued pursuant to section 22-380f for each animal sterilization and vaccinations, coincident with sterilization, performed by such veterinarian upon a dog or cat owned by an eligible owner. For a sterilization procedure, the Commissioner of Agriculture shall establish a rate of reimbursement that is not more than seventy-five per cent of the market rate or the fee charged by veterinarians in the state as of October 31, 2021. In the case of a sterilization fee exceeding the amount of the voucher, the eligible owner shall pay the participating veterinarian the difference between such fee and the amount of the voucher. Such voucher shall be in the amount of thirty dollars, in addition to the amount designated for sterilization, for vaccinations coincident with the sterilization of a dog or cat owned by an eligible owner.

(b) The program established under section 22-380g shall further provide for a payment to any

participating veterinarian for the presurgical immunization of dogs against rabies, distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis and parvovirus, or the presurgical immunization of cats against rabies, feline panleukopenia, calici, pneumonitis and rhinotracheitis, as the case may be, on animals not previously immunized. The payment shall be for no more than ten dollars for each immunization procedure and, in any case, not more than twenty dollars for one animal. Such veterinarian shall be paid by the commissioner upon the submission of a voucher, to be provided by the commissioner and signed by the veterinarian performing such operation and by the owner, stating that the animal has been immunized coincident with a spaying or neutering operation under the program.

(c) The participating veterinarian shall be paid by the commissioner for sterilization and coincident vaccinations of a dog or cat owned by an eligible owner upon submission of the voucher issued pursuant to section 22-380f and signed by such veterinarian.

Sec. 22-380j. Procedure for abandonment of dogs or cats in program. In the event that any person who submits any cat or dog for spaying or neutering to a participating veterinarian fails to retrieve such cat or dog within the time recommended by such participating veterinarian, such veterinarian shall transfer custody of such dog or cat to a state animal control officer, regional animal control officer or a municipal animal control officer, as defined in section 22-327. No participating veterinarian who has performed services provided for in sections 22-380e to 22-380m, inclusive, shall be denied payment from the account due to any failure of an owner of a dog or cat to retrieve such dog or cat.

Sec. 22-380k. Report re operation of program. Not later than one year following the inception of the animal population control program, established pursuant to sections 22-380e to 22-380m, inclusive, and annually thereafter, the commissioner shall submit a report to the joint standing committee of the General Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to the environment setting forth a complete operating and financial statement regarding the operation of said program. The commissioner shall include in the report an evaluation of the effectiveness of said program and any recommendations for statutory or regulatory changes he deems appropriate.

Sec. 22-380l. Surcharge on licensure of unspayed or unneutered dogs. For each license issued pursuant to section 22-338 for an unspayed or unneutered dog, the town clerk shall collect a surcharge of six dollars which shall be deposited by such clerk into the animal population control account established pursuant to section 22-380g.

Sec. 22-380m. Regulations. The commissioner may adopt regulations, in accordance with the provisions of chapter 54, to implement the provisions of sections 22-380e to 22-380m, inclusive.

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